

THE TOWN OF FENWICK
ISLAND

Information Guide

TOWN INFORMATION & REGULATION HANDBOOK

General Safety

Beach Safety

Recycling

Bicycling

Parking

Pets

A Quiet Resort



800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944

(302) 539-3011

Welcome...

The most prized and well-known treasure of Fenwick Island is its shoreline along the Atlantic Ocean. Throughout the summer and fall the ocean is mostly calm and warm, and the sandy beach is wide and relatively uncrowded. Beachgoers of all ages from toddlers to grandparents enjoy swimming, riding the waves, building a sand castle, having a game of catch, talking to friends, reading a book, napping and searching for seashells.

Welcome!

General Safety

- Walkers and joggers need to exercise extreme caution. **Please travel against the flow of traffic**, using the sidewalks and crosswalks provided.
- Obey all stop signs and the Town's 15 mph speed limit.
- Bicyclers must ride in the bicycle lane **with the flow of vehicle traffic**, and follow all vehicle traffic laws, and use reflectors.
- Fireworks are **NOT** allowed.
- All speed limits and traffic regulations are strictly enforced.
- Driving in the shoulder of Route 1 is a violation and subject to a fine.
- Yield the right-of-way to authorized emergency vehicles until they have passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.
- Do not obstruct an intersection or a marked crosswalk from use by other vehicles or pedestrians.

DE Code Title 16 §6901; DE Code Ch 41, §4130-36; Ch 41 VII, §4192 to 4198

Noise

General Noise: Reasonable noise and noise activities in the residential community created by productive activities such as house maintenance, gardening and grass cutting are permitted between the hours of 8:00AM and 8:00PM. Disorderly and disruptive noise-makers are subject to a fine

Construction Noise: NO construction is allowed on Sundays, Holidays or before 8:00AM or after 6:00PM daily. NO pile driving June 1 through August 31.

FI Code §107 [§61-14]

Bonfires on the Beach

Bonfires on the beach are by **permit only and strictly enforced**. Residents, property owners and renters of accommodations within the Corporate Limits of The Town of Fenwick Island who are 18 years of age or older, with proof of ownership or rental agreement, may apply for a permit. The permit holder is responsible for the conduct, activities and the clean-up. A non-refundable permit fee and a separate, refundable, deposit is required on application. The Police Department will issue the permit and verify clean-up. Bonfires are limited to 5:00PM to Midnight with clean-up activities to begin no later than 11:00PM so that all participants are off the beach by Midnight.

FI Code §73-1,2

Parking

~Parking permits are required from May 15 to September 15~

All vehicles parking within the Town limits during the summer months require a permit and must follow all Town parking regulations or are subject to a fine.

ALL vehicles must:

- Park in designated parking areas along the street and must display the appropriate hangtag from the mirror.
- The vehicle must face in the direction of the traffic flow and be parked as far as possible off the roadway. Ideally all four tires should be completely off the paved street
- Please do not block private driveways, fire hydrants and corners.
- All vehicles parked on the shoulders must display a current and valid permit.

Parking permits may be purchased inside Town Hall

800 Coastal Highway

Monday—Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM and on weekends/holidays 9:00AM-3:00PM

Street-end/Dune Parking: Only those who own property within the corporate limits of the Town receive a permit to park in this area. All vehicles parked in these spaces must hang this permit from the rear-view mirror or be ticketed. You cannot purchase this special permit.

Handicapped Parking: A Town of Fenwick Island paid permit IS required for handicap vehicles and can be purchased in Town Hall. There are spaces on the beach side of Town for registered handicap permit holders on the following streets: Bayard, Farmington, Georgetown and King Street.

Service Vehicles and Contractor Parking: Special parking decals are provided with yearly license, and additional decals are available for purchase from the Building Official at Town Hall.

Construction Trailers, Dumpsters and Commercial Utility Vehicles: All require special permit authorization. Please visit Town Hall.

Campers, Motor Homes, and Oversized Recreational Vehicles: Must be parked in a driveway and require special permit authorization. Please visit Town Hall.

Parking Tickets: Once a parking ticket is issued, it cannot be voided. It must be paid or disputed. **If you wish to dispute the ticket,** please contact:

**Justice of the Peace Court #1
9 Main Street
Frankford, DE 19945
Phone: 1-302-732-9580**

FI Code §112

**HANGTAGS MUST BE VISIBLE
FROM OUTSIDE THE CAR!**



Town Park

Please respect our park. It is for the enjoyment of all citizens.

- Pets, skateboards, roller blades, bikes, scooters and ball playing are not permitted in the park at anytime.
- Please do not climb on the fence or play in the planted areas.
- Alcoholic beverages and smoking are not permitted inside the park.



~Children must be supervised at all times~

Lifeguards

Beach safety is very important. Lifeguards are on duty in the Town of Fenwick Island beginning Memorial Day weekend and every day beginning the second week of June through Labor Day weekend. All lifeguards have certification in lifesaving, lifeguard training, semaphore communications, first aid and CPR.

No person is permitted to enter or swim in the ocean when the lifeguard deems ocean or weather conditions as unsafe. It is the duty of the guards to enforce safety rules and Town's ordinances to help protect all beach goers.

~All beachgoers swim at their own risk~

Beach Safety

- Alcoholic drinks are NOT permitted on the beach May 15 to September 15.
- Glass containers are prohibited on the beach at all times.
- Please keep off the dunes.
- Dogs are NOT allowed on the beach May 1 through September 30.
- Non-emergency and non-authorized vehicles are not allowed on the beach.
- Standing, sitting, eating or drinking on any street or highway while using a vehicle as a picnic facility is not permitted.
- Sleeping on public beaches is not allowed between 12:00 midnight and 8:00AM local time.
- No fishing, launching or beaching of non-motorized vessels from the beach is allowed while lifeguards are on duty, except as permitted by the lifeguard Captain.
- Living, dwelling, cooking, sleeping, changing clothes or using toilet facilities inside any vehicle within the corporate limits of the Town is prohibited.

~PLEASE use trash and recycle bins at the dune crossings~

Animals Beach [§48]; Beach [§52]; Peace and Good Order [§116]

Ducks and other Waterfowl

Feeding of waterfowl is NOT allowed. No person shall feed, permit to be fed or provide food for domestic or migratory waterfowl in lands either privately or publicly owned.

Please do not feed the geese, ducks and seagulls!

FI Code §48-11

Pets

Pets other than dogs and cats are prohibited.

- All dogs must be licensed, vaccinated and kept on property owned or leased by the owner of the dog. All dogs must be leashed and cleaned-up after.
- Dogs (or other animals) are NOT permitted on the beach May 1 through September 30. Any dog (or other animal) found to be in violation of this section may be taken into custody and turned over to the proper authorities and the owner fined.

FI Code §48-1(b)

Recreational Vehicles

Bicycles: Every person riding a bicycle must ride in the bicycle lane and **with the flow of vehicle traffic**. Any person operating a bicycle must follow all traffic laws and give hand/arm signals when turning or stopping. The bicycle or its rider must be equipped with lights and reflectors.

Skateboards, Rollerblades, Skateboards, or Scooters: They may not be operated upon public highways, streets, sidewalks or rights-of-way located within this State.

DE Code Title 21, Sections 101(83) and 4198N; Title 41, XII, § 4192 to 4198I

Property Watch

The Fenwick Island Police Department maintains a voluntary homeowner emergency contact list for property owners, whether their permanent address is Fenwick Island or elsewhere. Please contact Town Hall for a sign-up form.

Property Maintenance and Sanitation

Regular trash collection: May through September on Monday and Thursday; October through April on Monday only. Heavy trash pick-ups are scheduled twice yearly, usually early June and mid-September.

Curbside recycling: The town participates in a curbside recycling program. Pick up is every Friday from May through September and the first and third Friday from October through April. Sign up forms are available at Town Hall.

Correct handling of trash:

- Trash, rubbish and garbage should be placed in covered watertight containers **NOT** to exceed 32 gallons in size or 50 pounds in weight when filled.
- Weeds and grass on the bayside properties are not to exceed ten (10) inches in height at any time.
- All owners are responsible for removing any debris or rubbish which may accumulate on their property.
- Trash and recycle containers may not be placed along the curb in front of the property earlier than noon preceding the pick up day.
- All trash and recycle containers must be removed from the front of the property within 12 hours after it has been emptied by the collector.

FI Code §120, §127



Business Licensing

Business and rental licenses are renewed yearly, January through December, regardless of application date.

Service or Contractor: All building contractors, service contractors and companies performing a service or operating within Town limits must apply for an Outside Contractor License.

Property Rental: Anyone who rents property, residential or commercial, is required to have a rental license.

Retail Merchant & Restaurant Owner: All merchants within Town limits with approved businesses are required to hold a valid license and certificate of compliance (if applicable).

Construction Site Maintenance & Sanitation

- Construction trash materials must be contained in a dumpster or similar container.
- Construction mud and debris must be cleared from streets, rights-of-way and neighboring properties.
- Contractors are to provide toilet facilities, if none are available.
- Primary contractors are responsible for subcontractors, or anyone else working for them, to insure that Town ordinances are upheld. §61-15]

Severe Weather

In the event of an approaching coastal storm, please pay close attention to the Weather Channel or weather bulletins issued by the National Weather Service. The State of Delaware and the Town of Fenwick Island will issue instructions and recommendations as needed. Updated info during times of dangerous and severe weather is located on our web page found at www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov. We urge you to sign up for weather and other emergency information e-mail notification.

Important Area Phone Numbers

Chamber of Commerce:

Bethany/ Fenwick 539-2100

Coast Guard:

Emergency 227-2121

Non-Emergency 227-2439

Hospital & Emergency Centers

Beebe Hospital 645-3300

Atlantic General Hospital: Berlin, MD 410-352-5822

Public Libraries:

South Coastal 539-5231

Selbyville - 436-8195

Poison Control: 24 hour Poison Info 800-722-7112

Emergency:

911

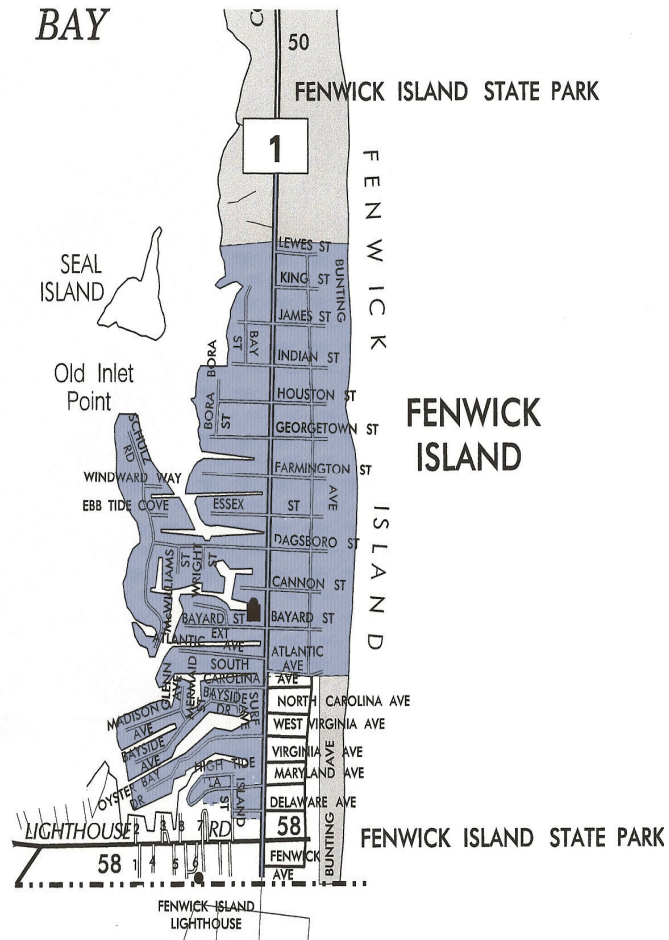
State Police:

856-5850

Fenwick Island Police:

539-2000

Town of Fenwick Island Street Map



Where in Town to Find...

Town Hall: Corner of Bayard Street and Coastal Highway [Route 1]

Police Department: Town Hall, Coastal Highway

Lifeguard Patrol: Command Point, Dagsboro Street Guard Stand

Lighthouse: First right after Route 54 traffic light. Follow informational signs to the lighthouse.

Fenwick Island Lighthouse

Fenwick Island Lighthouse
Fenwick Island, Delaware
Sussex County
Delaware-Maryland border
U.S.C.G. District: 5
Built in 1859

Existing historic tower:

The lighthouse was first lit in 1859. Built with natural foundation and brick materials, the lighthouse is a white tower with black lantern markings. The tower height is 84 feet and conical shape. Optic lens is a third order Fresnel. The light was automated in 1940, and the original lens is still in operation. The lighthouse was deactivated in 1978.



Existing keepers' quarters:

The two-story, wood frame, gothic keeper's house was constructed in 1859 and the assistant light keeper's house in 1881. Today both of the houses are privately owned.

Presently the lighthouse is used as a museum and a private aid to local navigation. The State of Delaware leases to the New Friends of the Fenwick Island Lighthouse, who maintain and pay the expenses. The lighthouse is open to the public several times a year.



Transpeninsular Line

Often mistaken for the Mason-Dixon line, the Transpeninsular Line represents the southern boundary of Delaware, which was disputed for nearly a hundred years. The Transpeninsular Line, which begins in Fenwick Island, was surveyed between 1750-1751. The line marker at the lighthouse is the oldest standing man-made object on the coast between Indian River and Ocean City. It displays the coat of arms of Lord Baltimore and the Calvert family of Maryland on the south side, and it shows the coat of arms of the Penn family on the north side. Besides the marker at the Fenwick Island Lighthouse, the original stone markers were placed approximately every five miles from east to west. There are markers still remaining in different stages of deterioration west of Fenwick Island, in Selbyville, Gumboro and Delmar. In Delmar, the southwest corner of the Transpeninsular Line meets the north-south boundary of Delaware, or the Mason-Dixon line, which was surveyed in 1760.